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SHERLOCK HOLMES OUTDONE By SIR ARTHUR CONAN DOYLE

HINK of all the famous authors of our day and call to mind their greatest and best work, and then say which of them is best qualified to put forth a volume that will endure as long as English literature is extant. You will concede, no doubt, that no such work has been put forth yet in this twentieth century. You will also concede, doubtless, that among the three or four authors likely to write such a book is the distinguished creator of "Sherlock Holmes." But Sir Arthur Conan Doyle's literary fame rests upon "The White Company," rather than upon 'Sherlock Holmes"-all the critics say that-and the former story is scarcely less popular to-day than the latter. Another "White Company" might be easily vour guess.

And another "White Company" tale it is to be. The hero of "The White Company" came upon the scene of action in his forty-sixth year, and so conducted himself in peace and war that he was the most revered and happiest man in all England. Sir Nigel Loring, he was called. But of his youth and early manhood no man to this day knoweth-no man save one, Sir A. Conan Doyle.

In his latest and greatest story Sir Arthur takes up Nigel Loring at the age of twenty-two, just as he is setting forth in life to mend with his sword the fallen fortunes of his noble house and family. "Sir Nigel: A Companion to The White Company," is therefore the appropriate title for the new story. Sir Arthur himself claims it for his "Masterpiece," and the few critics and editors who have been favored with early readings of it say that it is unquestionably the greatest historical romance ever written-as much greater than "The White Company" as Doyle himself is greater than he was at the outset of his literary career.

"Sir Nigel" will start as a serial in this Sunday Magazine Section on December 3, and as it is as long a story as "The White Company" it will run throughout the December, January and February issues. Nowhere else can it be procured in book or other form. The exclusive American serial rights were secured at the largest price ever paid in America for any story, and for a sum far in excess of the record price heretofore. It was the biggest and choicest plum in the literary orchard—the biggest grown in the literary world in many years-and prize plums from this orchard are dearer far to-day than ever before, as every magazine publisher will concede

The first instalment of "Sir Nigel" is a lengthy one; but it is brimming full of action and interest-such thrilling interest, in fact, that no one who reads it can lay it down without blessing himself that the entire volume and a tireless clock are not before him. It is a story of which it can be said, more truthfully perhaps than of any other, that it should be read in instalments, for every chapter is a superb and wondrous word-picture to be admired by itself. Like a long gallery of masterpieces in the painter's art, "Sir Nigel" presents a too-imposing array of scene and action for the mind to comprehend and appreciate all of it in one view. And another remarkable thing about it is that many of the chapters will almost insist upon being read aloud in the family circle or in the class-room.

"Sir Nigel" will be handsomely illustrated by J. C. Coll-no, you never may have heard of Mr. Coll, but you will. THE EDITOR.

GRIER KARL

enove out of the box and into her own attempt to harrow your feelings by brougham astonished the opera-goers describing the heart-broken grief of and made the "front of the house" gasp.

Did he take her to Sandilands House?

If ever you meet him, ask him, and you will hear an expressive Americanism.

Somewhat unjustly, he rated Nora all the way from Covent Garden to the hotel. rant, so did Maggie's perceptiveness fade His indignation was pardonable. Karl away. She strove with a fierce longing was his friend, and Nora he had met for the first time half an hour earlier. If Karl was really dead, Hooper held that Nora's unreasonable passion was the chief cause of his death. Perchance, the masterful spirit he showed during that turbulent drive went a long way toward taming the impulsive nature of a lovable and beautiful woman, for, queer whirligig of a world that it is, Nora is now Mrs Hooper, and a dear friend indeed of

Well, the anguish of that night in

manner in which he rushed Nora Caz- Como has long passed away, so I will not Maggie, the scarcely less frenzied anxiety of her mother, the turmoil and worry and vild guessing at eventualities which acked us during three weary hours. wild When Steindal vanished from the restauto follow the little cortège which carried Karl up-stairs. It was useless. The veil had fallen. She moved and spoke with the hopeless air of a woman beaten to her knees. I think she was overborne by the experiences of that trying period. Had Karl died, I am sure she would not have survived him long.

I quitted the Castle at ten o'clock English-speaking servant told the vetturino to drive slowly. Yet an hour later I needed his daring, because a lame horse brought me back all too slowly to

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